NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AMENDMENTS TO THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, CHAPTER 310-9 CONTINUING EDUCATION, RULE 310-9-.04 APPROVED PROGRAMS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the State Board of Landscape Architects, (hereinafter "Board") proposes to adopt amendments to the rule for the State Board of Landscape Architects, Rule 310-9-.04 *Continuing Education*. (hereinafter "proposed amended rule").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed amended rule and a synopsis of the proposed amended rule, is being mailed to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a mailing list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed amended rule, and a synopsis of the proposed amended rule may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. These documents will also be available for review on the Board's web page at http://sos.georgia.gov/plb/landscape. Copies may also be requested by contacting the Board's office at 478-207-2440.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. on July 13, 2011, at the Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amended rule. At the public hearing anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received on or before July 6, 2011. Written comments should be addressed to Kelly Farr, Deputy Secretary of State and Interim Division Director, Secretary of State, Professional Licensing Boards Division, State Board of Landscape Architects, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. FAX: 478-314-5805.

The proposed amended rule will be considered for adoption by the Board at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:35 a.m. on July 13, 2011, at the Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the State Board of Landscape Architects has the authority to amend this rule pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A §43-23-7.1.

At its meeting on June 8, 2011, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of this amended rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §43-23-7.1.

Also, at its meeting on June 8, 2011, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §43-23-7.1 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. §50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of residential and general contracting.

For further information, contact the Board office at 478-207-2440.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 9th day of June, 2011.

Kelly Farr with express permission by

Mindel W Munday

Kelly Farr

Deputy Secretary of State and Interim Division Director Professional Licensing Boards

Posted: June 9, 2011

SYNOPSIS AND DIFFERENCES OF THE PROPOSED RULE OF THE STATE BOARD OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS RULE 310-9-.04 CONTINUING EDUCATION

Purpose: Outlines requirements for continuing education.

Main Feature: To clarify the number of hours and types of service that may be counted towards continuing education requirements.

310-9-.04 Approved Programs. Amended.

- (1) Courses or programs offered by institutions of higher learning, specialty societies, professional organizations and government agencies will be considered acceptable provided that they are developed and conducted by qualified persons, provide the registrant with evidence of attendance or satisfactory completion, and consist of subject matter which contributes directly to the professional competence of a registrant in the practice of landscape architecture.
- (2) Correspondence Courses. Correspondence courses and independent study programs which meet the criteria provided in (1) above are permitted if the course provides for interaction between the participant and instructor or administrator. This usually takes the form of periodic examinations and must be documented.
- (3) Academic Courses. University and college courses offered in a degree program which meet the criteria provided in (1) above are permitted so long as the course is not taken to meet the education requirements for registration as a landscape architect.
- (4) Independent Research and Publications. Credit may be awarded for published articles and books provided they contribute to the professional competence of the applicant. Credit for preparation of such publications may be given on a self-declaration basis up to 50% of the total hours required. In exceptional circumstances an applicant may request additional credit by submitting the article(s) or book(s) to the Board with an explanation of the circumstances which justify a greater credit.
- (5) Service to the Profession and/or Public Service. Rendering service to the profession and/or the public through appointment, election or volunteerism on city/county/state/national commissions or boards, professional societies, councils or committees will be considered acceptable provided the positions held and activities conducted consistently relate to issues considered relative to the practice of landscape architecture. Tasks include, but are not limited to: registration examination grading and question writing; advocacy; public awareness; policy, etc. Documentation must be retained and submitted verifying length of service, position/title, description and function of entity, meeting dates and agenda. Credit for such service may not exceed 4 contact hours per renewal cycle.

Authority: §43-23-7.1